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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fourth session
Agenda items 14 and 18

Security Council
Sixty-fifth year

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Letter dated 12 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to my previous letters addressed to the Secretary-General dated 10, 14 and 25 May 2010 (A/64/782-S/2010/239, A/64/784-S/2010/249 and A/64/795-S/2010/258) and referring to the letters dated 18 and 27 May 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations (A/64/785-S/2010/246 and A/64/798-S/2010/273), I have the honour to draw your attention to the reaction of the international community to the illegal "parliamentary elections" held on 23 May 2010 in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan (see annex).

In their statements and communications, the international organizations and individual States voiced their unequivocal protest against the aforementioned "elections" and declared this provocative action null and void. Accordingly, it has been made clear that, against the background of continuing aggression, occupation and ethnic cleansing of the captured territories of Azerbaijan, the arranging of any kind of voting process in these territories cannot be recognized as legally valid and in no way can impose a unilateral solution. The clearly expressed unanimity of the international community confirms that the attempts to give the ethnically constructed, subordinate separatist regime set up by Armenia in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan the appearance of legitimacy, independence and democracy is, a priori, doomed to failure.

It is therefore regrettable that Armenia, instead of negotiating in good faith with a view to finding a durable solution to the conflict as soon as possible, based on the norms and principles of international law, decided to act in a manner contrary to the position of the international community and remain in isolation with its destructive political agenda that is fated never to be realized.

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The letters dated 18 and 27 May 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations and the comments made by the political leadership of the Republic of Armenia on the eve and after the holding of the illegal "parliamentary elections" contravene that country's declared commitment to the constructive and international-law-based solution to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. This in turn illustrates the obvious lack of credibility of the official Yerevan assurances of good intentions.

In addition to posing a serious threat to political settlement perspectives, the stance of Armenia purports to advocate the culture of impunity and promote dangerous ideas of superiority and expansionism based on unconcealed ethnic and religious prejudices prevailing in this country's policy and practice. Thus, it has been thoroughly documented and internationally recognized that Armenia bears the primary responsibility for unleashing war against Azerbaijan, occupying its territories, committing the most serious international crimes during the conflict, carrying out ethnic cleansing and creating a monoethnic culture in the captured Azerbaijani territories. It is therefore curious that, against this background and in the context of the reaction of the international community to the illegal "parliamentary elections" held on 23 May 2010 in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Armenian propaganda refers without scruple to the "fundamental democratic values" allegedly adhered to by the subordinate separatist entity, and has the cheek to claim a right to this product of aggression and outrageous manifestation of ethnic differentiation to determine its own destiny.

In this regard, I have been instructed by my Government to state, once again, that the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan can only be solved on the basis of respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of Azerbaijan, and peaceful coexistence of Armenian and Azerbaijani communities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region within the territorial framework of Azerbaijan, fully and equally enjoying the benefits of democracy and prosperity. For the purposes of peaceful resolution of the conflict, there is no alternative to this formula, which is therefore at the core of the ongoing settlement process, mediated by the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and which represents the foundation for establishing peace, security, stability and sustainable development in the region as well as for democratically and lawfully organizing the public life of its population.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 18, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 12 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Reaction of the international community to the illegal "parliamentary elections" held on 23 May 2010 in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Below are excerpts from statements and communications of international organizations and individual States:

In the letter dated 24 March 2010 from the Secretariat of the United Nations addressed to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations on behalf of the Secretary-General, respect for the sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan over its Nagorno-Karabakh region was unambiguously expressed, the so-called "parliamentary elections" were qualified as fictitious and the Azerbaijani side was assured that the United Nations was not involved in their conduct. According to the letter, "the Secretary-General is encouraged by the positive dynamic recently observed in the Nagorno-Karabakh peace process" and "hopes that Armenia and Azerbaijan will sustain this momentum and achieve a breakthrough in the conflict settlement process".[a]

The European Parliament, in its resolution of 20 May 2010 on the need for a European Union strategy for the South Caucasus, confirmed, inter alia, "the position that the EU does not recognize the constitutional and legal framework in which the elections in the breakaway territories take place and defends the political rights of displaced persons".[b]

The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, stated on 21 May 2010 that "the European Union does not recognize the constitutional and legal framework within which the 'parliamentary elections' in Nagorno Karabakh will be held this Sunday" and that "[t]his event should not prejudice the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict".[c]

According to the statement made by the General Secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on 23 May 2010, "the [OIC] deemed the parliamentary elections held in the occupied Azerbaijani territories of Nagorno-Karabakh on 23 May 2010 illegal and in contravention of the Geneva Convention and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)". The OIC General Secretariat called on the international community to condemn this process and deem it illegitimate, and reiterated the constant principled stand of OIC in supporting the efforts of the Republic of Azerbaijan towards a

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[a] Letter from the Secretariat of the United Nations addressed to the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, New York, 24 March 2010.

[b] European Parliament resolution on the need for an EU strategy for the South Caucasus (2009/2216(INI)), 20 May 2010, para. 21. See http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP// TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2010-0193+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN.

[c] European Union, Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Nagorno Karabakh, Brussels, 21 May 2010, A 84/10. See http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/ EN/foraff/114603.pdf.

peaceful resolution of the conflict on the basis of the relevant international resolutions.[d]

The Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE, Secretary of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Kanat Saudabayev, stated on 24 May 2010 that "[t]he 'parliamentary election' in Nagorno-Karabakh should in no way influence the outcome of the process of the conflict resolution". According to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, "[s]ince the OSCE supports the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and does not recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh, the holding of a 'parliamentary election' has no bearing or influence on the process of the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement".[e]

The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, Ambassador Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, Bernard Fassier of France and Robert Bradtke of the United States of America, in their statement dated 24 May 2010 "took note that so-called parliamentary elections took place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 23 May, 2010" and underscored again that "Nagorno-Karabakh is not recognized as an independent and sovereign state by any of their three countries, nor by any other country, including Armenia". According to the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, "this procedure should not preempt the determination of the final legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh in the broader framework of the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict".[f]

The Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in its declaration dated 26 May 2010, made it clear that "the 'parliamentary elections' organized in Nagorno Karabakh on 23 May 2010 are not recognized by the international community" and called on all parties concerned "to intensify their efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict, in accordance with the commitment undertaken by Armenia and Azerbaijan upon accession to the Council of Europe".[g]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey stated on 20 May 2010 that the so-called "parliamentary elections", which were considered "to be part of a unilateral effort to legitimize the de facto unlawful situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, constitute a clear breach of international law as well as related resolutions [of the United Nations Security Council] and OSCE principles". According to the position of Turkey, "the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which represents the most important obstacle for the establishment of peace, stability and security in the South Caucasus, also prevents the emergence of a situation conducive to the development of good-neighbourly relations and cooperation among the countries in the region". The Turkish Foreign Ministry has further pointed out that "at the current stage, where intensified negotiations directed at peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue and the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia

[d] The Organization of the Islamic Conference condemns the Holding of Parliamentary Elections in Occupied Nagorno-Karabakh, 23 May 2010. See http://www.oic-oci.org/topic_detail.asp?t_id=3791&x_key=.

[e] OSCE Chairperson-in-Office comment on the "parliamentary election" in Nagorno-Karabakh, Astana, 24 May 2010. See http://www.osce.org/item/44073.html.

[f] Statement by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, Moscow/Paris/Washington, 24 May 2010. See http://www.osce.org/item/44058.html.

[g] Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers: Declaration on the "parliamentary elections" held in Nagorno Karabakh on 23 May 2010, Strasbourg, 26 May 2010. See http://www.coe.int/t/dc/press/news/ 20100526_cm_en.asp.

continues under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group, holding 'parliamentary elections' in the occupied territory of Nagorno-Karabakh is clearly an attempt which will adversely affect the ongoing efforts for the peaceful solution of this problem". In this regard, "while deploring this act which violates Azerbaijan's political unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity", Turkey stated that it "will not recognize the results of these illegal elections which are certainly null and void in terms of international law".[h]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation stated on 24 May 2010 that "Russia supports the principle of territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, as well as other fundamental norms and principles of international law" and that it "do[es] not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent state". The Ministry further pointed out that "Moscow does not believe that the course of the peaceful settlement of the conflict could depend on the elections in Nagorno-Karabakh".[i]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania stated on 25 May 2010 that Romania did not recognize the so-called "parliamentary elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh as legitimate and that it adhered to "its consistent position of refusal to recognize the independence of the Nagorno-Karabakh region".[j]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, in its communication dated 25 May 2010 regarding the so-called "parliamentary elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh, informed that the Netherlands "supports the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan".[k]

According to the statement released on 25 May 2010 by the Embassy of France in Azerbaijan, France, along with the European Union and the whole international community, including Armenia, does not recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh and proceeds from the position that the so-called "elections" held there on 23 May 2010 can in no way affect the perspectives of the ongoing settlement process and prejudge the determination of the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh in the general framework of the settlement.[l]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated on 26 May 2010 that Iran did not recognize the "parliamentary elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh. The Ministry also rejected reports that Iran had sent an observer to the elections, saying that nobody had taken part in this action as Iranian observer.[m]

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[h] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, 20 May 2010, press release regarding the so-called "parliamentary elections" to be held on 23 May 2010 in the Azerbaijani Territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. See http://www.mfa.gov.tr/no_-106_-20-may-2010_-press-release-regarding-the-so-called-_parliamentary-elections_--to-be-held-on-23-may-2010-in-the-azerbaijani-territory-of-nagorno-karabakh.en. mfa.

[i] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Commentary by spokesman Andrei Nesterenko on the "parliamentary elections" in Nagorno Karabakh on May 23, 2010. Moscow, 24 May 2010. See http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/0/D05FCC170B7BBADFC325772E0020F492.

[j] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, "Situation in Nagorno-Karabakh", 25 May 2010. See http://www.mae.ro/index.php?unde = doc&id=15588.

[k] Note by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Netherlands, The Hague, 25 May 2010.

[l] Embassy of France in the Republic of Azerbaijan, "Déclaration Haut-Karabakh", 25 May 2010. See http://ambafrance-az.org/france_azerbaidjan/spip.php?article1184.

[m] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, "*Iran does not recognize parliamentary poll in Nagorno-Karabakh: FM Spokesman*", Tehran, 26 May 2010.

The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Azerbaijan, in its communication dated 26 May 2010 informed that "Norway recognizes the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council" and therefore "consider[s] the 'parliamentary elections' in Nagorno-Karabakh to be illegitimate".[n]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China stated on 27 May 2010 that "China's position on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue is clear and consistent, and remains unchanged". China expressed its hope that "the relevant parties find a solution acceptable to all through consultations and dialogues based on the universally recognized principles of international law and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh issue peacefully". It has further been stated that "this not only serves the interests of Azerbaijan and Armenia, but also contributes to regional peace, stability and development".[o]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, in its statement of 27 May 2010, "reiterat[ed] its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan" and pointed out that it "does not recognize the so-called 'parliamentary elections' conducted in Nagorno Karabakh on 23 May 2010".[p]

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Republic of Azerbaijan, in its communication dated 27 May 2010, reiterated "Morocco's support to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan". Being convinced that "the respect for the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Conference on Nagorny Karabakh by the parties is necessary to the peaceful resolution of this conflict", the Kingdom of Morocco "shar[ed] the view that organizing elections in Nagorny Karabakh undermines the current process of negotiations dedicated to resolve this conflict".[q]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, in its communication dated 31 May 2010, informed that Hungary "remains firm in her position on the settlement of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh" and "broadly shares the common EU stand on this issue emphasizing that the settlement must be achieved by peaceful and negotiated means, taking into consideration of the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan". As to the "elections" of 23 May 2010 in Nagorno-Karabakh, "the Ministry ... call[ed] attention to the statement of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, of 21 May 2010, underlining that the European Union does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which the 'parliamentary elections' in Nagorno-Karabakh were held". It has

[n] Note by the Royal Norwegian Embassy addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku, 26 May 2010.

[o] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, remarks by *Foreign Ministry spokesperson Ma Zhaoxu on the election in the Nagorno-Karabakh area*, 27 May 2010. See http://big5.fmprc.gov.cn/gate/big5/www.china-un.org/eng/fyrth/t697454.htm.

[p] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, statement on Nagorno Karabakh, Tbilisi, 27 May 2010. See http://www.mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=59&info_id=12124.

[q] Note by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku, 27 May 2010.

further been pointed out that "this event should not prejudice the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict".[r]

In its communication dated 8 June 2010 regarding the so-called "parliamentary elections" in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations "reaffirm[ed] its respect to the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the inviolability of internationally recognized borders and the inadmissibility of using force to acquire territory" and called on the parties to refrain from any action that hinders the settlement of the conflict. It has been also pointed out that "Peru supports the efforts that, with a view of resolving the conflict, have been ongoing in the framework of the United Nations and the Minsk Group of the OSCE".[s]

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[r] Note by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Hungary, Budapest, 31 May 2010.

[s] Note by the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, New York, 8 June 2010.

United Nations A/64/852–E/2010/101

General Assembly
Economic and Social Council

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30 June 2010

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General Assembly
Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 70
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Economic and Social Council
Substantive session of 2010
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Letter dated 19 January 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the conclusions adopted yesterday by the Council of the European Union (Foreign Affairs) at an extraordinary meeting on the humanitarian crisis in Haiti, chaired by Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (see annex). These conclusions, which reaffirm the European Union's strong support for the United Nations coordinating role in the international relief effort, record the commitments made by the European Union and its member States for humanitarian relief and assistance in recovery and reconstruction in Haiti.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 70, and of the 2010 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, under the humanitarian affairs segment.

(*Signed*) Juan Antonio **Yáñez-Barnuevo**
Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations

* E/2010/100.

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Annex to the letter dated 19 January 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Council conclusions on the earthquake in Haiti

1. The European Union expresses its sincere and deepest condolences, sympathy and solidarity to the people of Haiti, of other nations and to the staff of international organisations, including the UN, for the massive loss of life and devastation caused by earthquake on 12 January, adding to the already fragile situation of the country. We share the grief of the families of those tens of thousands who have died and express our heartfelt sympathies to those who have been injured in this catastrophe.

2. In view of the proportions of the disaster and as a gesture of its solidarity with the victims of the earthquake, the High Representative in close coordination with the Spanish Presidency and the European Commission convened this extraordinary session of the Foreign Affairs Council (Foreign Affairs/Development and Humanitarian Aid) to underline the importance of the need for a rapid, coordinated response based on the humanitarian principles and to consider actions required in the course of next weeks and months.

3. The Council welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Haitian authorities and civil society, as well as by the UN, the Red Cross movement, other bilateral donors such as the US, the OIF and NGOs to bring aid to the people of Haiti, and pays tribute to the work of relief organizations and individuals from across the Union. The Council commends the Dominican Republic for the role it is playing in this crisis. The EU remains ready to provide assistance to the Dominican Republic.

4. The Council welcomes the global response to this crisis and strongly supports the central and overall coordinating role of the United Nations in the international relief effort.

5. The Council was briefed on the Union's response to the earthquake and the efforts to save lives and alleviate suffering. The Council welcomes the swift response by the European Union and by Member States in rapidly providing humanitarian emergency assistance and deploying humanitarian and civil protection experts from the Commission and the Member States, as well as efforts by Member States in the area of consular cooperation. The first priority has been to dispatch urban search and rescue teams, including military and civil engineering capabilities, the current focus being to provide emergency health, water and sanitation, medical facilities, shelter, logistics, telecommunications and food. The Council underlines the need for adequate security on the ground to ensure safe and unhindered access of aid deliveries. The EU and its Member States stand ready to provide additional assistance on the basis of the ongoing needs assessment, including military and civil assets, as appropriate, responding to the UN request.

6. In this regard, the Council was briefed on the needs identified by the United Nations for additional support for transport and delivery of humanitarian aid and for the action of MINUSTAH to ensure adequate security on the ground. The Council invites the High Representative to identify Member States' contributions to these needs, regarding civilian as well as military means, and to present proposals, as appropriate, for the mobilisation of these means in a coordinated manner as soon as possible.

7. The Council also welcomes the European Commission's preliminary commitment of a total of 30 million EUR in humanitarian assistance, and by Member States who have preliminarily committed a further 92 million EUR. Following the launch of the UN's Flash Appeal for 575 million USD, the EU signalled its willingness to provide further humanitarian assistance in response to emerging needs. The Council also welcomes that for early non-humanitarian assistance, focusing notably on restoration of government capabilities, the preliminary financial contribution from the EU instruments amounts to 100 million EUR. The Council welcomes the proposal of the Commission to dispatch a joint team of EU experts to assess the most pressing needs, notably to support the capacity of the Haitian authorities. With regard to possible contributions from the Member States, the Council will revert to the issue at its next meeting on 25 January 2010.

8. The Council calls for, in due course and after post emergency needs have been fully assessed, an international conference and in this context it welcomes the launching of a coordinated Post Disaster Needs Assessment with the UN and the World Bank. It emphasizes that reconstruction efforts must be based on national priorities, take into account disaster risk reduction principles, respect the aid effectiveness principles and address the necessity of reinforcing Haiti's institutions to enable them to fulfil their basic governance functions.

9. In this regard, the Council requests that an EU-wide response to the post-emergency rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction for long-term development needs of Haiti be submitted as soon as possible, which makes full use of all resources, expertise and funding available from EU and Member States, takes into account Member States' contributions to multilateral bodies and clearly addresses division of labour among the EU institutions and Member States, while fully linking relief to rehabilitation and development (LRRD). This response shall integrate EU development partners' contribution and notably the ACP Group and CARIFORUM, bearing in mind the possible impact of the current crisis on neighbouring countries. The EU response should take into account the wider efforts of the International Community in favour of Haiti. The Council takes note that the preliminary indications from the Commission on the financial contribution from the EU instruments to finance the longer-term response will amount to 200 million EUR.

10. The greatest possible synergies between all components of the response in the short term and in the medium to long term must be ensured.

11. The Council looks forward to further actions, including on paragraph 10, and will revert to these issues at its next meeting on 25 January 2010.

United Nations A/64/853–S/2010/351

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 15
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-fifth year

Identical letters dated 29 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions of my Government, I transmit herewith a letter of complaint concerning the abduction of Lebanese citizen Imad Hassan Atwi from Lebanese territory by Israeli enemy forces on 27 June 2010 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 29 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On 27 June 2010, at 3 p.m., Israeli enemy forces kidnapped Lebanese citizen Imad Hassan Atwi, while he was herding his flock inside Lebanese territory on the outskirts of the village of Saddanah, located between Shab'a and Kafr Shuba. Israeli enemy forces bound, blindfolded and beat him in full view of United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) personnel, who attempted to intervene. But the hostile Israeli forces quickly withdrew into the occupied Shab'a Farms, dragging Mr. Atwi on the ground more than 300 metres. They led him into a tent behind the Blue Line where they beat him and tortured him into unconsciousness. Israeli enemy forces then took him into the Occupied Palestinian Territory where he was interrogated by Israeli intelligence. On 28 June 2010, at 2.15 p.m., approximately 24 hours after having kidnapped him, Israeli enemy forces handed over Mr. Atwi to UNIFIL at the Naqurah crossing. The Force in turn handed him over to the Lebanese Army, which took him to hospital because of his extensive bruises, contusions and other serious physical injuries. This act is a flagrant violation of Lebanese sovereignty, Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), international law and international humanitarian law. It affirms yet again Israel's disdain for international resolutions and determination to pursue its aggressive and provocative policies, and the threat that Israel persistently poses to international peace and security.

United Nations A/64/854

General Assembly

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6 July 2010

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 118
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 5 (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316. It contains the draft programme of work of the plenary for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The draft programmes of work of five of the six Main Committees of the Assembly, which were adopted by the Assembly during the main part of its sixty-fourth session, can be found in the respective decisions of the Assembly. The status of documentation will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

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I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 5 (d) of the annex to its resolution 58/316, entitled "Further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly", decided that in July of each year the General Committee should conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the forthcoming session of the Assembly, on the basis of a report submitted by the Secretary-General, and should also submit recommendations on the matter to the Assembly at its forthcoming session. The report should include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session.

2. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

3. The draft programmes of work of the Main Committees, with the exception of the Fifth Committee,[1] have been approved by the respective Committees and were adopted by the General Assembly in the following decisions: First Committee (decision 64/517 of 2 December 2009); Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (decision 64/522 of 10 December 2009); Second Committee (decision 64/543 of 21 December 2009); Third Committee (decision 64/538 of 18 December 2009); and Sixth Committee (decision 64/525 of 16 December 2009).

4. To assist the General Committee and the General Assembly in their efforts to maximize both effectiveness and efficiency, the present report contains only the draft programme of work of the plenary for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The details of the draft programmes of the Main Committees are available in the respective decisions.

5. The status of documentation will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

[1] The Fifth Committee has not taken a decision on this matter.

II. Draft programme of work of the plenary for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

First week (14-17 September)

Tuesday, afternoon	Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [1][2]
	Minute of silent prayer or meditation [2]
	Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [3 (a)]
Wednesday	Meeting of the General Committee
Friday	Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: first report of the General Committee [7]

Second week (20-24 September)

	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday to Wednesday	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [13]; Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [117]: High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly (resolution 64/184 and decision 64/555)
Wednesday	Convention on Biological Diversity [20 (f)]: high-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity (resolution 64/203 and decision 64/555)
Thursday to Saturday	General debate [8][3] (resolution 64/184 and decision 64/555)
Friday and Saturday	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States [20 (b)]: high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (resolution 64/199 and decision 64/555)

[2] Items and their numbers cited herein are from the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-fifth session (A/65/50). All items are pending approval by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session for their inclusion in the agenda and allocation for consideration. Some items that are on the preliminary list but not reflected in this draft programme are omitted either in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly or for scheduling at a later date.

[3] The Secretary-General will present his report on the work of the Organization as the first item before the opening of the general debate.

Third week (27 September-1 October)	
Monday to Thursday	General debate [8]
Fourth week (4-8 October)	
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Tuesday	Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [110]
	[Promotion of justice and international law]
Friday	Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [72]; Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [73]: joint debate
Fifth week (11-15 October)	
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Monday	Eradication of poverty and other development issues [24]: plenary devoted to the consideration of the outcome of and follow-up to the International Year of Microcredit (resolution 63/229)
	[Development of Africa; Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Tuesday	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support [63 (a) and (b)]; 2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [12]: joint debate
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday	Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council [113 (a)]

Sixth week (18-22 October)

	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Monday	1. Sport for peace and development [11]
	2. Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations [14]; Culture of peace [15]: joint debate
Wednesday	Report of the Economic and Social Council [9]; Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [13]: joint debate
Friday	*United Nations Day Concert*

Seventh week (25-29 October)

	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday	Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council [113 (b)]
	[Maintenance of international peace and security]
Tuesday	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [41]
	[Promotion of justice and international law]
Thursday	1. Report of the International Court of Justice [71]
	2. Report of the International Criminal Court [74]

Eighth week (1-5 November)

	[Promotion of human rights]
Wednesday	Report of the Human Rights Council [64]
	[Maintenance of international peace and security]
Thursday	The situation in Afghanistan [38]

Ninth week (8-12 November)

	[Disarmament]
Monday	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [89]
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Tuesday	1. Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination [114 (a)]
	2. Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences [115 (f)]
	3. Appointment of members of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women [115 (g)]
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters; Maintenance of international peace and security]
Thursday	1. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [112]
	2. Report of the Security Council [29]; Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters [121]: joint debate
Tenth week (15-19 November)	
	[Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts]
Monday	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [70 (a) to (d)]
Wednesday	*Official United Nations holiday (Eid al-Adha)*
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday	Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations [124 (a) to (w)]: joint debate
Friday	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [117]: specific meeting focused on development (resolution 60/265)
Eleventh week (22-26 November)	
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Tuesday	1. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [13]; Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [117]; Strengthening of the United Nations system [122]: joint debate

	2. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [119]; Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [120]: joint debate
Thursday	*Official United Nations holiday (Thanksgiving Day)*
Twelfth week (29 November-3 December)	
	[Maintenance of international peace and security]
Monday, afternoon, and Tuesday	1. Question of Palestine [37]
	2. The situation in the Middle East [36]
Thursday	The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [32]
Thirteenth week (6-13 December)	
	[Promotion of justice and international law]
Tuesday	Oceans and the law of the sea [75 (a) and (b)]: joint debate
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday	1. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order [16]
	2. Follow-up to the commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade [118]
	3. Global health and foreign policy [126]
	[Maintenance of international peace and security; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday	1. Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion [31]
	2. Prevention of armed conflict [33]
	3. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development [34]
	4. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [35]
	5. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan [39]
	6. Election of five members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission [114 (b)]

	7. Multilingualism [123]
	8. Report of the Credentials Committee [3 (b)]
	(13 December-end of 13 weeks)
	[Maintenance of international peace and security]
Tuesday (14 December)	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [57]: commemorative meeting on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (decision 64/560)

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Agenda item 95
Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

Letter dated 2 July 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith information on and the final document of the International Conference on Disarmament in Central Asia and the Caspian Basin, which was held under the aegis of the United Nations on 24 June 2010 in Ashgabat (see annexes I and II).

I would appreciate it if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annexes as a document of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 95.

(*Signed*) Aksoltan **Atayeva**
Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations

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Annex I to the letter dated 2 July 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

The international forum in Ashgabat laid the foundation for the elaboration of specific disarmament measures in the region

The further development of a compelling dialogue for the purpose of strengthening peace and stability in the region was the main item on the agenda of the International Conference on Disarmament in Central Asia and the Caspian Basin, held on 24 June in the capital of Turkmenistan. The initiative of convening this meeting was taken by the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdymukhammedov, at the sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly held in New York in September 2009.

The Conference in Ashgabat, held under the aegis of the United Nations, was attended by 80 representatives of Central Asia and the Caspian Basin region and of major international and regional organizations — the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

In the opinion of the participants, this meeting was an important and timely event, reflecting the objective need to consolidate the efforts of States and international organizations to deal with disarmament issues of relevance to our region. The Conference was therefore highly focused and discussed practical measures for establishing a non-proliferation regime, arms control, reduction and elimination of individual types of weapon, and the drafting and application of international legal provisions to make this process consistent and irreversible.

It is appropriate here to state the position of Turkmenistan on this issue. It was natural for our country to have taken the initiative of convening this Conference. As a neutral State, Turkmenistan has always consistently advocated a reduction in the level and quantity of weapons in the region both as a basis for preserving strategic stability there and as a guarantee against the risks of outbreaks of armed conflict and uncontrolled and spontaneous use of weapons. In fact, our country was the first in the region to ratify the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, signed in Semipalatinsk, near which, as everyone knows, the largest nuclear test site in the world was formerly located. At the present time — from autumn last year to autumn this year — Turkmenistan is acting as the first coordinator of implementation of the conditions laid down in this Treaty.

As speakers stressed in their presentations, the adoption of this important collective decision was by no means accidental. Because the region is one of the most strategic zones of contemporary world politics, by virtue of the huge energy potential concentrated there and the important transport routes, it continues to be in direct proximity to hotbeds of instability and military conflicts. In addition, being fully aware of the realities of today's world, the States of Central Asia are pursuing a most responsible policy, making a weighty joint contribution to the cause of

strengthening regional and international security. It is thus unanimously felt that the signature and entry into force of the Semipalatinsk Treaty, the first multilateral agreement on security in the region, was one of the most important events of recent years in the global disarmament process.

This has been a momentous year for the disarmament process. The united position of the world leaders and their understanding of the importance of finding a rapid solution to the problem of global disarmament have led to the adoption of qualitatively new approaches to this issue, demonstrating the determination of the entire international community to coordinate efforts to deal with the threats and challenges of the day. In this connection, the Conference participants had high praise for the position of Turkmenistan. As a party to the most significant international legal instruments and primarily the United Nations conventions on disarmament, Turkmenistan is very actively participating in global processes to ensure stability and universal security.

The focus of Turkmenistan's approach to disarmament in the region is the creation there of a political platform for multilateral dialogue, namely a standing mechanism for collaborative political consultations, with an active role for the principal international organizations and above all for the United Nations.

At the plenary sessions of the International Conference, there was an extensive review and analysis of the situation regarding disarmament and the participation of the States of Central Asia and the Caspian Basin in the relevant agreements and a compelling discussion of the international law framework for disarmament and how it can be enhanced. Attention was paid to the role of international organizations in solving these issues at the global and regional levels and to the possibility of them providing assistance to the States of the region in such matters.

Stressing the need for careful study of the extensive experience in the area of disarmament accumulated by international and regional organizations, and primarily the United Nations, participants mentioned the special significance of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, which is today assigned an important role in creating an effective model for concerned cooperation and coordination of the disarmament process.

Noting the need for synchronized efforts and consolidation of common interests, participants emphasized that joint work and adoption of agreed and integrated approaches to security and disarmament issues will eventually be the most effective ways and means of solving pressing problems.

Referring to the timeliness of the broad dialogue initiated, participants were of the unanimous opinion that the Ashgabat meeting had created a solid platform for the elaboration of concrete measures and an ongoing exchange of views on issues of collective security and had thus promoted the strengthening of peace and stability in the region.

Expressing sincere appreciation to Turkmenistan for the well-organized meeting, participants emphasized that the productive and highly constructive dialogue had once again demonstrated the determination of the countries of the region and the international organizations working there to provide comprehensive assistance to the global disarmament process, including the reduction of arsenals of weapons of mass destruction.

In this sense, the Conference was actually the first professional consideration of the problems of the region from the disarmament viewpoint. Hence its political significance. In the opinion of Turkmenistan, the goal is to make this an ongoing and systemic process.

The following final document was adopted at the conclusion of the Conference.

Annex II to the letter dated 2 July 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

International Conference on Disarmament in Central Asia and the Caspian Basin

Ashgabat, 24 June 2010

Final document

The International Conference on Disarmament in Central Asia and the Caspian Basin was held in Ashgabat on 24 June 2010, at the initiative of the President of Turkmenistan taken at the sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Participating in the Conference were delegations from the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the High Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, the Head of the Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, the Chairman of the Executive Committee — Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Deputy Secretary-General, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, and representatives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

The Conference participants heard a welcoming address from Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdymukhammedov.

The International Conference conducted a detailed review and analysis of the situation concerning disarmament affairs and the participation of Central Asian and Caspian Basin States in the relevant agreements and regimes, as well as a thought-provoking debate on the international legal framework for disarmament and how to improve it. Also analysed were the role and experience of international organizations in finding solutions to disarmament issues on a global and regional scale and the possibility of them assisting the efforts of the States in the region in that regard.

The Conference participants agreed without exception that ensuring security in the region is the prerogative of the Central Asian and Caspian Basin States themselves. Consolidating their efforts and developing, as appropriate, agreed and integrated approaches to matters of security and disarmament will produce the most effective solutions to pressing problems.

The Conference participants devoted considerable time to analysing progress made in implementing the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,

as well as to discussing the prospects for further cooperation within the framework of the Treaty, including how to ensure that the nuclear Powers sign the Protocol on security assurances. Emphasis was placed on the need to broaden cooperation among parties to the Treaty under article 6, on the environmental rehabilitation of uranium tailings storage sites in Central Asia.

The Conference participants underlined the need for creative consideration of the experience accumulated by international organizations in the area of disarmament, and for States in the region to cooperate with the United Nations and the relevant international organizations, and to exploit the potential of the Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia.

Representatives of international organizations who spoke at the Conference welcomed the contribution made in the area of disarmament by the States in the region.

The broad exchange of views that took place demonstrated the desire of States in the region to find ways of reconciling the interests of the different countries in the area of disarmament.

The work of the Conference helped to strengthen peace and stability in the region, to continue the disarmament process and reinforce collective security and the role of the United Nations, as well as to enhance the effectiveness of regional mechanisms. It laid the groundwork for the organization of similar forums in the future based on consensus. The aim would be a joint consideration of problems concerning the security interests of all States in the region and exchange of information, when necessary, on initiatives and agreements on disarmament discussed and implemented in various formats, as well as on the development of framework principles, should the need for them arise. Such principles would provide a basis for further agreement on concrete measures in a narrower format.

In thanking Turkmenistan for its warm welcome, the Conference participants expressed their great appreciation of the host country's efforts in preparing and successfully holding the Conference.